



Fast Facts

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

EXPANDING FAMILY PLANNING SERVICES

The Problem

Over two million California women under 200 percent of the federal poverty level are at risk of unintended pregnancy and in need of publicly funded family planning services. About two-thirds of these women currently receive the needed contraceptive services through either Medi-Cal or the Family PACT (Planning, Access, Care, and Treatment) program. One in three California children is born to an unwed mother, and the number of out of wedlock births to teens is as high as two out of every three. Additionally, the adolescent population is expected to increase by 34 percent over the next ten years, significantly adding to the sexually active population in need of pregnancy prevention programs.

Family PACT Program

The Family PACT program, under the direction of the Office of Family Planning, began in 1997 for women in need of services but without access to reproductive health care and contraception. In fiscal year 1999-2000, Family PACT served about one million women.

- The Family PACT program is designed to expand access for low-income men and women to comprehensive family planning services. This historic, unprecedented statewide program fills a “gap” in health services for the working poor and uninsured by providing services needed to prevent unintended pregnancy and promote reproductive health.
- To ensure that all eligible individuals have access to pregnancy prevention services, Governor Davis obtained a federal Health Care Financing Administration 1115 Waiver for Family PACT, effective December 1, 1999. Through this waiver the state will be reimbursed approximately \$900 million over five years.
- To achieve the goal of expanded access, the Family PACT program has increased the number of providers from the 142 agency contractors under the previous local assistance contract program with the Office of Family Planning to over 2,750 providers, with new providers being enrolled on an ongoing basis. The Family PACT provider community consists of physicians, physician groups, public health departments, hospitals, and community clinics, and includes specialists in family practice and OB-GYN.

- Family PACT ensures access to all Food and Drug Administration-approved contraceptive methods, pregnancy testing, and the option of sterilization for women and men. The program also includes sexually transmitted infection testing and treatment, HIV screening, as well as cancer screening.

Teen Pregnancy Prevention Efforts

California's efforts to address the challenges of promoting reproductive health for women and men and preventing unplanned and adolescent pregnancies have included:

- *Teen Pregnancy Prevention*, a multi-faceted media campaign designed to focus on preventing unplanned pregnancy through four platforms: 1) adult involvement; 2) teen responsibility; 3) male responsibility; and 4) contraceptive services. The media campaign effort is linked to Family PACT as well as various community-based programs, such as Community Challenge Grants, Information and Education, and Male Involvement.
- The Community Challenge Grant (CCG) program was established as part of the 1996 Budget Act. The goals of CCG are to reduce the number of teenage and unwed pregnancies and the fatherlessness that results from these pregnancies, and to promote responsible parenting. The CCG supports locally identified prevention strategies because the most innovative, effective, and culturally appropriate solutions are realized when government partners with the community, parents, and youth.
- The Information and Education (I&E) local assistance projects have been a major component of the community-based reproductive health education effort for more than 25 years. I&E's primary goal is to decrease teen and unintended pregnancy through family life education programs that emphasize primary prevention. Youth and adults from throughout the state are reached through 32 statewide I&E projects in a variety of settings.
- The Male Involvement Program (MIP), local reproductive health education projects with 25 community-based organizations, is designed to reduce teen pregnancy through promoting primary prevention skills and motivation in adolescent boys and young men. This innovative approach to building community capacity has been successful in increasing community and individual awareness about the importance of the male role and responsibility for positive relationships and successful families.
- The Adolescent Family Life Program (AFLP), which provides comprehensive, continuous case management and counseling services for pregnant and parenting teens age 17 and under.